

he expressed his satisfaction, "that the popular branch of the Legislature had seen fit thus promptly to respond to this portion of his message," adding that "the subject is one of great magnitude in every point of view, affecting most deeply the honor of the State, as well as the peace and good order of society, and unquestionably demands at your hands, the most rigid and thorough examination."

This letter, which the committee presume from seeing it published, without their consent or agency, immediately after its date in several of the newspapers of the State, is intended by the Governor as a supplement to his message, proper to be communicated to the people; contains some important explanations of the scope and design of its author in the revelations of the message touching the alarm he had expressed for the safety of the State, and very happily relieves the committee, as it has no doubt relieved the House, of much of the anxiety which suggested the investigation. It has in equal degree lightened the labor of the task with which the committee is charged.

It now appears that the Governor was misunderstood in the intimations he had given regarding his discovery of secret associations, that the House had been unnecessarily alarmed by supposing that these associations were hatching dangerous plots, of which only some obscure manifestations had escaped from concealment and found their way to the notice of the Executive : and that the single cause of the Governor's apprehensions has been traced by him to the proceedings of a large political party, transacted in a National Council held in the city of Philadelphia in the month of June last. It also appears that the secrets which have contributed to the Executive's disquiet are the political doctrines avowed in a paper called the Platform of that Party, which has been published in a thousand newspapers and innumerable hand-bills, pamphlets and books, and is still undergoing daily republication with a view to the widest possible announcement throughout the United States.

The Governor does not intimate that he has discovered or believes that the party to which he refers, has adopted, or acknowledges, or acts upon any other principles or doctrines than those set forth in the platform. Indeed, so far from intimating